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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: John C. Delo

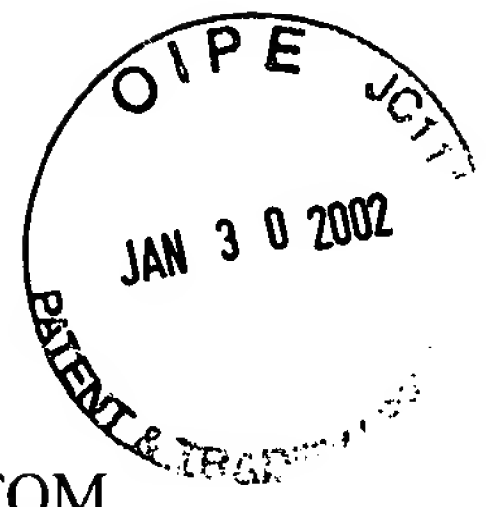
Attorney Docket No: MSFT118285

Application No: 09/994,254

Group Art Unit: 2122

Filed: November 26, 2001

Title: SOFTWARE INSTALLATION AND VALIDATION USING CUSTOM ACTIONS



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Seattle, Washington 98101

January 22, 2002

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Applicant is aware of the information listed in the attached form that may be material to the prosecution of the above-identified patent application.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Copies of the listed patents, publications, and other information are enclosed for the Examiner's use.
2.  X  This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior Application No. 09/157,776, filed September 21, 1998. The references listed on the attached form were submitted to and/or cited by the Patent and Trademark Office in this prior application and, therefore, are not required to be provided in this application.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ A concise explanation of the relevance of document Cite No. \_\_\_\_\_ (which is not in the English language), as presently understood by the individual designated under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about its content, is provided in an English abstract appended to said document.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-identified application.
5.  X  Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the national application (other than a CPA), within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, before the mailing date of a first

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Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE.

6. \_\_\_\_\_ Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution, and is accompanied by:
- a. \_\_\_\_\_ a certification statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); or
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ the submission fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed.
7.   X   The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.18 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-1740. This authorization also hereby includes a request for any extensions of time of the appropriate length required upon the filing of any reply during the entire prosecution of this application. A copy of this document is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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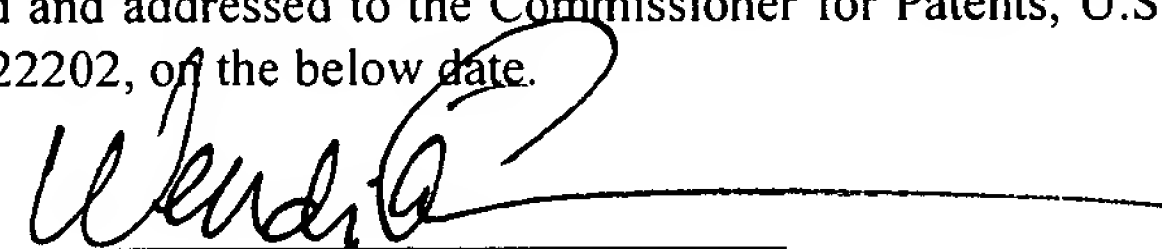


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202, on the below date.

Date: January 22, 2002

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